**TO:**  Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Project Participating Critical Access Hospital

**FROM:** State Flex Program Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, Hospital State Division

**DATE:** October **<XX>**, 2015

**SUBJECT:** MBQIP Consent for Access to CMS Quality Data

The Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Project (MBQIP) is an initiative within the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility grant program funded through the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) and funded to states to support quality improvement work within small rural hospitals. **<XZY organization>** implements the State Flex program in **<INSERT STATE>**.

**This notice serves to inform you that an MBQIP Participation Consent Form is currently on file for your organization.** For the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Grant years from September 1, 2015 – August 30, 2018, MBQIP measures have been aligned with the rural relevant priorities for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). **The MBQIP Participation Consent Form currently on file will continue to be honored as we move forward with the realigned MBQIP measures.** A current list of MBQIP measures can be found here: <https://www.ruralcenter.org/tasc/resources/mbqip-quality-domains-2015-flex-grant-guidance-appendix-b>. This consent form allows CMS to share facility level quality measure data with FORHP and the State Flex programs for purposes of supporting quality improvement efforts.As the importance of measuring quality to document high performance and demonstrate improvement continues to grow, MBQIP is an important program that is helping ensure critical access hospitals are linked with information and resources to improve patient care and provide valuable data to demonstrate the capacity of critical access hospitals to provide high quality care.

To underscore the importance of quality reporting and improvement, FORHP has linked individual CAH participation in the MBQIP program to receipt of support and assistance from State Flex programs, beginning with the FY 2015 grant period.

Please contact **<INSERT State Flex Coordinator>** should you have any questions, or if you wish to sign an updated MBQIP Participation Consent Form.

**<Note: Each state can add language or state-specific information to adapt this template to fit their needs.>**